

Regarding Claim 4, the Examiner stated "Claim 4 does not require anything." In response, we agree to modify claim 4 to change "may be added" to "is added" and removing "or oxygen."

Our Modified Claim 4: The process of claim 1 wherein an amount of ~~air or oxygen may be~~ is added to said horizontal reactor vessel thereby increasing the temperature and hence the rate of cracking reactions and carbonization reactions.

Regarding Claim 5, we revised claim 5, and removed "or closed circuit cooling water."

Our Modified Claim 5. The process of claim 1 wherein the means for cooling the resulting coke is provided with ~~either air or closed circuit cooling water.~~

Regarding Claim 6, The Examiner Stated "Claim 6 is an obvious expedient to permit easy pumping of the product for processing." In response, we believe Claim 1 modifications make Claim 1 not obvious and thus Claim 6 is not obvious as being dependent on Claim 1.

### **Conclusion**

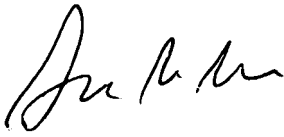
In conclusion, the distinctions noted above render the claims patentable over Pietzka and meet the conditions for patentability per 35 USC § 103. Based on the foregoing clarifications, we request reconsideration of Claims 1 through 6 being allowed. We also request a review of new Claims 7 through 20.

Per the office action, we have provided an IDS related to the references citing the known techniques discussed in the specification. In regards to the Lurgi Coking we have provided Publication Number US 2002/0038778 A1, where Lurgi is referenced in Paragraph 15. In regards to the Fluid Coking and Flexi-coking process referenced in the specification we invite your attention to "Handbook of Petroleum Refining Processes", 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Robert A. Meyers editor, McGraw-Hill: Chapter 12.1. In regards to the Delayed Coking process referenced in the specification, we invite your attention to "Handbook of Petroleum Refining Processes", 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Robert A. Meyers editor, McGraw-Hill: Chapter 12.2.

We have amended the claims, provided a new Figure 2 drawing for clarification and replacement paragraphs for the specification.

We appreciate your attention and additional review of this application and its subsequent correspondence. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (281) 301-2005.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary M. Machetta', with a stylized, cursive script.

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